

Both Cold and Warm Water Fish
Frequent the Coast in Season.

The importance of the fisheries to a small country like Japan may be gauged by the number of the boats employed in the business. Of the old-fashioned country boats there were in 1908 (when the statistics were compiled), first-class, 28,000 second-class, 121,000; third-class, 281,000; making a total of 430,000, and as some of the first-class boats may have as many as 20 men afloat—for instance in bonito fishing—the number of persons employed must amount to millions.

In addition, there are the boats of modern style, built on European or American models. Of these there are: Sailing vessels, mostly schooners, 92; auxiliary steam, 166; steamers, 41. These last are generally stout trawlers of 150 tons burden or so. There do not yet appear to be any motor-boats, but the Japanese are so progressive that, given petroleum at a moderate price, it will not be long before there are fleets of these also.

The shores of Japan are washed by both hot currents and cold currents, and consequently both classes of fish are found according to season and locality. Of the cold-water species some of the most important are the sardine, the herring, the Pacific cod and the anchovy. The sardine (*Clupea melanostica*) as shown in spirits at the exhibition stand, is about the size of the Cornish pilchard, which of course is the adult of the true Brittany and Mediterranean sardines, which are the immature fishes. The two species are extremely alike, and as the Japanese have learned the art of tinning they export a very excellent article, except that the oil used leaves something to be desired.

The herring is the same as the Atlantic species (*clupea harengus*), but

in Japan it is only known to spawn at one season in the year (the spring), when it approaches quite close to the land and deposits its ova on the seaweed. At that time it is caught in large quantities, generally in pound-nets. Its size is a medium maitie, smaller than the Loch Fyne or the Norwegian brands, but larger than the "longshore" races of English herrings. The Pacific cod (*Gadus macrocephalus*) is, of course, well known in the United States. It is very like the Atlantic cod, but has a larger head and it runs smaller on the average. The anchovy (*Eugraulis japonicus*) is extremely like the European species. It does not seem to be fished for or cured to any great extent.

Of the warm-water fishes, there are the common tunny (*Orchynus thynnus*) which is known as the "leaping tuna" in California, the "yellow-tail" (*Seriolus*), also common in southern California, the bonito (*Thynnus pelamys*), which is extensively fished for in summer, generally with rod and line, and the mackerel and also a red bream (*Pagrus major*) which the Japanese call tai. It somewhat resembles the red snapper, and is reported to be an excellent table fish.

There is a prawn about eight inches long (a Palaemon, the sort that have long serrated beaks), and another about five inches long, a *Pepeus*, with short stumpy beaks. These are potted and are excellent meat. Also a crawfish or spiny lobster (*Palinurus*), but apparently no true lobster.

Oysters, both pearl and edible, clams (for which there is a very important fishery), and many other marine products, of which the most truly national is a seaweed (*Porphyra tonora*), which is cultivated in the shallow bays in long parallel hedges about 15 feet apart, gathered by men in boats, and dried in the sun on bamboo screens. The annual value of the crop is about 1,474,000 yen, a large sum for Japan.

Dec. 14.
HERRING RECEIPTS HELP SMOKERS

Will Furnish Employment For Many
Men For Considerable Time.

Outlook For Catch at Bonne Bay
Is Improved.

Advices from the herring regions of the Newfoundland treaty coast this morning are to the effect that fishing in the North Arm at Bay of Islands was good yesterday, while it had slackened off considerably in the Middle and Humber Arms, so that there was very little doing in the two latter fishing spots. There had been a little frost, but nothing to amount to anything.

There were some herring again in Bonne Bay yesterday and some of the boats got fair fishing. After the biggest fishing on record for that bay throughout the whole present season, the herring suddenly disappeared there Friday night, and Saturday's fishing there was a blank. This condition held all through Sunday and Monday, but yesterday some herring showed up again, though in not the same large quantities as before.

Liberal Receipts Furnish Plenty of
Stock for the Smokers.

The large number of herring arrivals here, seven since last report, will give the smokers plenty of goods to work on for a while, and as more crafts are due and several more on the way, which should be showing up the last of this week or first of next, it looks

as though the desired stock could be counted on to come along pretty regular for a while at least.

All the available smoke houses are in use and the herring are being hustled out just as fast as men can work, for not only are the fish needed quickly for bloaters, but the vessel owners are anxious to clean their crafts out and hustle them off on second trips.

Extent of Herring Industry Not Generally Known.

If the herring should hold on at Bay of Islands and Bonne Bay, as is devoutly hoped, this season will cast all others in the shade. A walk around the wharves will be an eye opener to those not conversant with the situation for many busy scenes will be encountered. The large number of men at work will be found surprising, indeed, it is hard work to get men enough and when it is figured that this herring unloading and handling and smoking business means practically steady work almost until next April for a large number of those men who would otherwise be unemployed, or working at best on odd jobs, the value of this fishery and the enterprise of the vessel owners in sending such a large fleet this season can be somewhat realized. It means thousands and thousands of dollars for labor alone and all for Gloucester's laborers in what would otherwise be the very dullest part of the year.

Dec. 14.
SIGN OF NEW CONDITIONS.
So St. John's Trade Review Views
Purchase of Newfoundland Fish.

As a first visible and outward sign of new conditions, says the Trade Review of St. John's, N. F., we have salt bulk fish buyers from the United States on the west coast buying freely of the late caught fish that could be processed to a finish this fall. It is estimated that their aggregate buyings for the season will go over 3,000,000 pounds, or nearly 30,000 quintals. We hear that some of this fish has been bought as high as three cents per pound; but even at two and a half cents per pound (which appears to be the average figure), the sum spent on buying the fish will be in the region of \$75,000. Two and a half cents per pound for salt bulk fish is a pretty good price. On the old familiar basis of computation of "two for one," it would mean \$5.60 for a dry quintal, and if we add 40 cents for handling and complete curing, we reach the round \$6 per quintal.

The Trade Review adds that the people will watch this Yankee venture with a great deal of interest. "If the fish purchased on this coast goes to the United States in American bottoms as product of the American fisheries, we must accept the indirect advantages at present and, at the same time pray for reciprocity, and the direct advantage. If the United States government will not accept the fish purchased on our coast as bona fide the product of the American fishery, then Gloucester must swing to our side, for she must have the fish even if she lets in Newfoundland as a toe to toe competitor, and, by the appearance of things, she can't get the goods she wants anywhere outside the Newfoundland coast. Large nations have big battalions on their side, but the little fishes appear to be on the Newfoundland side at present, because they have entirely deserted the New England coast."

Red Snapper Fishing Good.

Fishing for red snapper on the Campeche banks is reported to be good at this time, the same being indicated by the large catches which are being brought to Galveston, Texas, by the boats of the Gulf Fisheries Company. The E. F. Williams and the Elmo arrived in port, the former with 16,000 pounds and the latter with 15,000 pounds. The Libbie Shearn had 35,000 pounds. The fish after the storage ice boxes are filled are being frozen and stored awaiting the demand of the market.

Snapper arrivals at Pensacola were quite heavy during the last week, catches being large, and both the big companies here doing a rattling business. The total catches for the week were 172,000 pounds of red snappers and 25,000 pounds groupers. The Warren Fish Company had only five vessels, still they carry the largest quantities of fish, the total being 90,000 pounds of red snappers and 16,000 pounds groupers. E. E. Saunders & Co. had six vessels which had 82,000 pounds of red snappers and 9,000 pounds groupers.

The Louise F. Harper had the largest catch of red snappers brought to any of the fish houses in the last six months. The catch was 31,000 pounds and the vessel had been out only eighteen days. Only eleven days were spent at the fishing banks.

Lunenburg, N. S., Fish Notes.

J. Ernst & Son, at Mahone Bay, have the frame up for a new bank fishing schooner for Capt. Alfred Eisenhauer of Indian Point. The vessel to be finished in March next. A new bank fishing vessel for Capt. Sidney Winters of Mahone Bay, will shortly be started at Ernst's shipyard.

Sch. James A. McLean has been sold to parties in Newfoundland.

Sch. Juanita, Capt. Albert Selig, will make a trip to Newfoundland for a load of herring.

Sch. Arthur W., Capt. Westhaver, arrived Wednesday night from the fishing grounds with 70,000 pounds of haddock.

Norway Mackerel.

Norway mackerel are slightly higher in the 3s and 4s, the demand being largely of the jobbing order. Irish are in fair request. The total shipment to date are about 25,000 barrels. Late reports indicate good catches. Advices from Dingle of the 23d ult., say: "There were about 170,000 mackerel landed and cured here last week. These fish will count about 360 to 370 to the packed barrel."—New York Fishing Gazette.

Dec. 14

INLAND BOUNDARY FISHERIES.

Agreement Reached by United States and Canadian Commissioners.

An Ottawa dispatch says that it is understood that as a result of the conference held there during the past three days between Prof. David Starr Jordan, the United States representative on the International Fisheries Commission, and Prof. Prince, the Canadian Commissioner, an agreement has been reached whereby the joint international regulations governing the fisheries in inland boundary waters as drafted over a year ago, will be brought into force without further delay by simultaneous promulgation at both Washington and Ottawa.

The chief cause of the delay in bringing the regulations into force has been the contention of the American fishermen in Georgian Bay, that the new restriction in regard to size and character of nets are unduly oppressive on them. There has also been some objection raised by the fishermen on Lake Erie that the proposed regulations are unnecessarily hard on individual fishermen who cannot afford to purchase new and expensive outfits.

The Commissioners have found that some of the objections are well founded, and have agreed to some changes made that will secure justice to all parties, and at the same time will not interfere with the underlying principle of conservation of the food fishes in all the boundary waters.

Meanwhile, however, the regulations as drafted will be promulgated probably early next month. Saginaw Bay may for the present be exempt from the operation of the new rules, pending amendment of the regulations by the Commission, after they have been formally put into force.

Nova Scotia Fish Market.

Owing to the unfavorable weather conditions all arrivals are held up and as a result the various coasting vessels have practically nothing and with the exception of the Lunenburg bank fish and a few odd lots from Newfoundland there is very little more to come. The steamer Sobo sailed to the Windward Islands with an average shipment. The stocks held on the local market cannot amount to more than 150,000 quintals, as compared with 250,000 to 300,000 for an average season. No more than twenty or thirty thousand quintals will reach the market now and as the stock is moving rapidly away it is doubtful is more than 150,000 quintals will be held at any time. The people who use fish will have to pay high for it this winter. The season for live lobsters on the western shore opens on the 17th, when winter shipments begin to Boston. It is likely that the business will be prosecuted with vigor this winter.

United Kingdom Fish Receipts.

The value of all the fish landed on the coast of the United Kingdom in October was £1,127,237, or £12,534 more than in the same month of last year. England and Wales had landings valued at £964,059, a decrease of £807; Scotland £144,011, increase £11,076; and Ireland £19,167, increase £2,265. For the first ten months of this year the total United Kingdom value was £8,618,425, a rise on last year of £259,603. England and Wales, with a total of £6,492,947, showed an advance of £172,293; Scotland, with £2,872,811, an increase of £179,125; and Ireland, with £252,667, an increase of £8,185.

Should Have Read Salt Herring.

In the herring article of yesterday, an error crept into the figures, which made them say what was not so. The article should have read as follows:

Thus far the herring arrivals this season have been 11 in number, 10 salt and one pan frozen, all American and bringing 12,335 barrels of salt herring, 1152 barrels of pickled herring and 900 barrels of frozen herring. Last year, the herring arrivals to date numbered 10, all of them bringing salt herring, nine being American and one English. No frozen cargo arrived until December 23, when sch. Annie M. Parker brought a load of pan frozen.

Portland Fish Notes.

Fish were brought in here Monday in great amounts. Some of the trips were the largest landed this year by the local fleet for the vessels having fares had been gone several days to Rockland bay. Haddock was fairly plentiful in all the cargoes. The following were reported: Albert D. Willard, 28,000; Edmund F. Black, 18,000; Katie I. Palmer, 20,000; Isabel Parsons, 2000, all for the F. S. Willard Co. In addition to a number of motor Hampton boats, the following took out at Commercial wharf: Bernie and Beasie, 9000; Rough Rider, 1500; Crusader, 2000; and A. P. Parkhurst, 2500.

Dec. 14

SIX CARGOES OF SALT HERRING.

THE FEATURE OF TODAY'S FISH RECEIPTS—ONE FARE OF FRESH FISH.

Salt herring are the fish market features here this morning, no less than six crafts, well loaded, having arrived since last reported, from Bonne Bay and Bay of Islands, N. F., all having hustled right along and lost no time on the way.

The crafts are schs. Essex and the new sch. Sylvania, which came yesterday afternoon, the former from Bonne bay and the latter from Bay of Islands. During the night four more came along, schs. Independence II., Saladin and Oregon from Bay of Islands and Gov. Russell from Bonne bay. These are first trips this season for all the above named crafts, but many of them will have their cargoes hustled out and speed away again as soon as possible for second cargoes, this time for frozen goods.

During yesterday afternoon sch. Ingomar, Capt. Horace Wildes, came in from the Liscomb fishing ground, on the Cape Shore, with a nice fare, 45,000 pounds of fresh fish. The captain reports four good fish days but found fish quite scarce. Several others of the haddock fleet were there, among them sch. Onato, which had just come there from Western bank, where Capt. Larkin reported finding no fish at all; schs. Vanessa, Susan and Mary, Lillian and Stiletto.

These four latter craft had had one or two sets and picked up a few fish, the Stiletto having more than the others and had bait enough left for two more sets.

The British sch. Excelda, which came in here at noon yesterday, was from St. Jacques, N. F., and had 384,000 pounds of salt cod for the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Company.

Another yesterday afternoon arrival was sch. W. H. Moody, from a Georges handlining trip, with a splendid fare, 40,000 pounds of salt cod, the best catch for some time in this line of fishing.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Ingomar, Liscomb ground, 45,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Wm. H. Moody, Georges, handlining, 40,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Essex, Bonne Bay, N. F., 1200 bbls. salt herring, 100 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Gov. Russell, Bonne Bay, N. F., 1300 bbls. salt herring, 150 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Sylvania, Bay of Islands, N. F., 1500 bbls. salt herring, 100 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Independence II., Bay of Islands, N. F., 1800 bbls. salt herring, 200 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Saladin, Bay of Islands, N. F., 1350 bbls. salt herring, 150 bbls. pickled herring, 145 quintals salt cod.

Sch. Oregon, Bay of Islands, N. F., 1350 bbls. salt herring, 100 bbls. pickled herring.

Br. sch. Excelda (arrived yesterday), St. Jaques, N. F., 384,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Rob Roy (arrived yesterday), Bay of Islands, N. F., 1300 bbls. salt herring, 75 bbls. pickled herring.

Steamer Mariner, shore.

Steamer Quoddy, shore.

Sch. Valentina, shore.

Sch. Dixie, shore.

Sch. Flora J. Sears, shore.

Sch. Edith Silveira, shore.

Sch. Harriet, shore.

Sch. Thalia, shore.

Sch. Hortense, shore.

Sch. Emily Sears, shore.

Sch. Georgianna, shore.

Sch. Eugenia, via Boston.

Sch. Gracie E. Freeman, shore.

Sch. Grace Otis, pollock seining.

Sch. Jubilee, shore.

Sch. Arabia, via Boston.

Sch. Mary DeCosta, shore.

Sch. Frances P. Mesquita, shore.

Sch. Walter P. Goulart, shore.

Sch. Mary B. Greer, shore.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Priscilla Smith, Newfoundland herring trip.

Today's Fish Market.

Bay of Islands salt herring, \$4.50 per bbl., Bonne Bay salt herring \$3.75 per bbl., pickled herring \$5 per bbl.

Eastern deck headline salt cod, \$5.55 per cwt., for large \$5 for mediums and \$5 for snappers.

Bank halibut 12 cts. per lb. for white, 11 cts. for gray, with the heads on.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.

Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.

Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.

Dec. 14.

Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.
Splitting prices for fresh fish:
Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.
Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium \$1.30; snappers, 50c.
Haddock, \$1.10 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.15 per cwt.
Georges headline salt cod, \$5.25 for large and \$4.75 for medium.
Fresh round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt., gutted \$1.20.

Dec. 14.

SMALL CATCHES AT T WHARF.

SHORE BOATS WERE ONLY ABLE TO MAKE SINGLE SET YESTERDAY.

Small catches are the rule at T wharf this morning, all the shore boats in there only having had one dip. Of the 20 crafts in only one is from offshore, the latter craft being sch. Susan and Mary, from the Liscomb grounds, with 44,000 pounds of fresh fish. The market fleet is all out again today, and many of those which were out yesterday did not run to market, so there should be a good-sized bunch in tomorrow.

The prices still hold up in grand style, indeed it seems as though from \$4 to \$5 had almost become a standard price for haddock, so much so that when they drop below the former figure the skippers begin to wonder if they have glutted the market. To contemplate the prices paid this winter and last, the days when one of the leaders of the fleet sold haddock all winter and never got above \$1.10 and fares went as low as 60 and even 40 cents per hundred weight, shows the changes which have come in this great business as far as demand for fresh fish and superior modes of transportation for supplying that demand are concerned, for these are the two things which are primarily responsible for the prosperous prices the haddockers have been receiving the past few seasons. It looks as though the skipper who remarked that the day of cheap fresh fish had gone by, came pretty near knowing what he was talking about.

This morning haddock sold at from \$4.50 to \$5, and large cod from \$5 to \$6.50. Hake were from \$3 to \$5, as usual, and pollock rose to \$3.25. When they want fish nowadays they certainly pay for them and pay big.

A large quantity of fish came to T wharf by boat and rail from the dory fishermen yesterday, those about Rockland and York Beach supplying most of the fish. From these fishermen the market received this morning 44 boxes and 111 barrels of haddock, 25 boxes and 53 barrels of cod, 17 boxes and two barrels of pollock, nine boxes of hake, three barrels of cusk, five boxes and five barrels of mixed fish, 10 barrels of flounders and 50 barrels of herring.

Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are:

Sch. A. C. Newhall, 2000 haddock, 5000 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Annie and Jennie, 4000 haddock, 600 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Elizabeth W. Nunan, 2500 haddock, 1000 cod, 2500 hake.

Sch. Rebecca, 3000 haddock, 800 cod, 3000 hake.

Sch. M. Madeleine, 1000 haddock, 7000 cod.

Sch. Sadie M. Nunan, 6500 haddock, 2500 cod, 4000 hake.

Sch. Motor, 3000 haddock, 1000 cod.

Sch. Priscilla, 1500 haddock, 300 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Little Fanny, 5500 haddock, 1600 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Mildred V. Nunan, 1200 haddock, 1000 cod, 4500 hake, 2500 cusk, 1000 pollock.

Sch. Buena, 3000 haddock, 1000 cod, 4700 hake, 2500 cusk, 1700 pollock.

Sch. Clara G. Silva, 2000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1200 pollock.

Sch. Mary E. Cooney, 2500 haddock, 1000 cod, 2000 pollock.

Sch. Mabelle E. Leavitt, 3000 haddock, 3000 cod, 200 pollock.

Sch. Richard J. Nunan, 5000 haddock, 1500 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Emerald, 3000 haddock, 2000 cod.

Sch. Galatea, 3500 haddock, 1600 cod, 3500 pollock.

Sch. Susan and Mary, 24,000 haddock, 13,000 cod, 7000 hake, 700 halibut.

Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, 4500 haddock, 1100 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Catherine D. Enos, 4000 haddock, 18,000 cod.

Haddock, \$4.50 to \$5 per cwt.; large cod, \$5 to \$6.50; market cod, \$3 to \$4.50; pollock, \$3.25; hake, \$3 to \$5; cusk, \$2.25.

Dec. 14.

Caught Huge Shark.

Three men of the fishing schooner Gladys and Nellie battled with a 400-pound shark on Jeffries bank Sunday and finally landed it. The shark had become tangled in a buoy line, and Stiles Ross, one of the three, tried to kill it and nearly upset the dory.

Lester George and Michael Morrissey answered his hurry call. They were puzzled, as all they could see was Stiles vigorously declaiming and jabbing at an unseen object with an oar.

The trio skirmished until they got the shark unawares and then perforated his body with fish forks till the monster weakened. The shark, measuring 12 feet in length, was brought to T wharf Monday.

Cold Storage Plant at St. John's, N. F.

Some men from the United States, says the Trade Review, are in St. John's looking over the ground with a view to launching a large cold storage project. We hear that they have approached the government with a view to special legislation in connection with their project, and, at the present juncture, they are not in a position to talk definitely of their plans. In a general way, however, we learn that they intend to roughly set apart the south and east coastline of the island into five distinct sections, and so place five cold storage depots as to be practically equidistant. Each depot will have a capacity of a million lbs. of fish, and both fresh and green fish will be handled.

New Fish Corporation.

The Eastern Canada Fisheries Co., Ltd., successors to the Magdalen Islands Development Co., have placed large orders for provisions, etc., to be sent to the Magdalen Islands, and are preparing for work next season.

Dec. 14.

Now Pollock Seining.

Sch. Grace Otis is now engaged in pollock seining under command of Capt. Joseph E. Graham.

Dec. 14.

Towboat Mariner Now Engaged in Fishing.

The towboat Mariner is now engaged in shore fishing, having been chartered by Capt. Allison for use while his steamer Nomad, which was damaged by fire recently, is undergoing the necessary repairs to put her in shape again for fishing. The Mariner, as was the Nomad, is engaged in steam netting on the shore grounds off here.

Southern Fishermen Missing.

Nothing has been heard of the five fishermen who sailed from Charleston, S. C., in the little skip Flagship on a fishing trip recently; and even the most optimistic of their friends have reached the conclusion that they were drowned. The five men were Joseph Norton, Peter White, Babe Brown, Mannie Gibbes and Tom Ravanel.

Good Haddocking Stocks.

Sch. Lucania, Capt. Martin L. Welch, stocked \$2240 as the result of her recent haddocking trip, the crew sharing \$48.80 clear.

Sch. Morning Star, Capt. Freeman Decker, which was also at T wharf with a fine fare Monday, also got a nice stock, her crew sharing \$49 clear.

Dec. 15.

Portland Fish Notes.

There are plenty of fish off the Maine coast. That is the report brought back here by the members of the local fleet who have been setting their trawls in Rockland bay. All of them say that all kinds of fish, and haddock were found in particularly good numbers. This is encouraging news for the finnan haddock trade for there was a feeling at one time that not enough would be secured to smoke. Now there are plenty and the fish are said to be a better quality than ever.

For all the fish are piling into Portland in good sized trips, the market still remains firm. There is a ready demand for sea food and it is being bought up as quickly as it is landed.

Several more vessels of the local fishing fleet came in Tuesday, all with good fares, and the market is now well supplied. Sch. Lochinvar brought in 18,000 pounds of mixed fish, sch. Fannie Reed had 15,000, while sch. George H. Lube landed the banner trip, 30,000 pounds, on which she stocked over \$1000 the crew sharing about \$52 each.

Dec. 15.

SOME STORIES ABOUT LOBSTERS.**MAINE FISHERMEN FIND CATCHING THEM A PROFITABLE BUSINESS.**

Lobsters are always interesting.

The very fact that they are the most expensive of sea food lends an interest to the shell fish. There are other facts also about them that make them worth the attention of anyone, for there are lobsters and lobsters.

Several weeks ago the Portland papers told of some yellow lobsters and some blue ones that had been landed at the N. F. Trefethen Co. Recently Capt. George W. Greenleaf of the United States fisheries steamer Gannet had some interesting things to tell of the crustaceans.

"Ever hear of a red and black lobster," asked the captain. Those who happened to be in the office said they had not.

"Well I've seen them," continued the man who has handled many thousands of the shellfish in the service of the government. "Several times I have come across lobsters half of which would be a bright red just as if they had been boiled while the other half would be black, or a green so deep that it looked black. The division line along the back was clearly marked."

"Maybe he was originally all green and got half boiled swimming along the edge of the gulf stream," suggested one man who was in the office.

Asked if he had seen any other colored lobsters besides those already mentioned Capt. Greenleaf said very frequently spotted ones were found, lobsters that had big yellow blotches all over their backs and tail. This variety, in fact is very common.

Never Have Two Jammer Claws.

"But there is one thing," continued Capt. Greenleaf, "you have never seen and I doubt if you ever will see a lobster with two jammer claws."

To those who do not know it might be said that a lobster's jammer claw is one of the big ones with which he breaks things up. It is always the larger of the two and is the one that has the teeth. The other claw is called the pincher.

"I have heard that there are such lobsters," was the captain's remark, "but I have never seen them, though I have handled thousands of the shell fish. I have even been asked by the Smithsonian institute to keep a watch for a lobster with a pair of jammers, but never have I run across one myself or seen anyone who has found one."

Lobsters with two pinchers have frequently been found.

"But about the funniest freak of all was a lobster a man showed me recently that had a regular rooster's comb. The fish had probably been bitten when the shell was soft and it had grown up in just the shape of a comb and red at that. If just the head of the lobster were pointed toward you you might think it was a rooster's head."

"One very funny thing I have noticed in my trips along the coast is that no fisherman has ever found any small lobsters around Little Deer island. There are plenty of them down the other way, around Great Deer island, but around Little Deer, they will always run from five to 12 pounds in weight."

Lobster Catching Prosperous for Maine Fishermen.

Asked by a reporter if he thought there were as many lobsters now as formerly Capt. Greenleaf said:

"There are more fishermen engaged in the business and there are ten lobsters handled now to where there was one 30 years ago. Then there must be more lobsters in the water. There are plenty of small ones all along the coast, a good proof that the supply is not by any means becoming annihilated."

"People frequently say there are not as many lobsters as formerly. Thirty years ago what lobsters were caught were disposed of almost wholly in the local market. Now Maine lobsters are sold as far south as Florida and as far West as Seattle."

"I tell you the lobster business is one of the very best in the whole State of Maine. You hardly realize the immense amount of money paid out to the fishermen. Why on one haul recently—that is, on one day's catch—one fisherman received \$110."

Dec. 15.

219

Others in the Trefethen room then spoke of the great sums of money that had been paid to the lobster catchers. One man and his son at Matineus during 1906 were paid over \$4000 for the lobsters they caught.

"Instead of being business for the winter by a few men," said Capt. Greenleaf, "lobster catching is now an all-the-year-round business with hundreds engaged in it. Every possible place where the fish could be is searched and the lobsters caught. I tell you if the state of Maine should lose its lobster business, there would be a good many men would have to find new jobs."

Dec. 15.

WILL DEVELOP MAGDALENES.

New Canadian Fisheries Company Incorporated for the Purpose.

The incorporation of the "Eastern Canada Fisheries, Limited" was announced recently. The new company is on a sound financial basis, and represents the maturity of a scheme which has long been contemplated, namely the development of the great wealth in seal and other fisheries in the Magdalen Islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The Magdalen Islands were acquired by purchases from the Canadian government some time ago. The capital stock is \$1,500,000 divided into 15,000 shares of \$10 each. The head offices of the company are in Montreal.

The chief interests of the company lie in the fisheries, for which a most exhaustive list of privilege has been granted. The company can catch, smoke, dry, pack and export all kinds of fish and shell fish; and can sell fresh bait, and catch and sell seals and whales. They can carry on the business of manufacturers of guano, glue, oil, whalebone, fertilizers, and other substances.

The company has a very strong backing in Montreal and Quebec including one of the best known Canadian banks. Development will probably start next spring.

Maine May Pass Herring Law.

It looks now as if some sort of a herring law would be passed at the next session of the Maine legislature. There has been quite a great agitation along the coast for something to be done that would prevent the wholesale slaughter of these fish. The best way to save them, it is argued, is to stop seining. This is what will probably be done at the next session of the legislature.

Of course no law that can be passed will affect fishermen beyond the three-mile limit, but herring as general rule are not caught that far off shore. With their seines on the prohibited list, traps, weirs and nets would be left for the fishermen and these could be used to land the smaller fish.

The great amount of herring landed during the past year has caused the agitation for a law in order that the small fish may be given more freedom to grow up into large herring for smoking and bait.

Dec. 15.

No Bait at Provincetown.

In a letter received from Provincetown yesterday morning it was stated that the Boston fishing schooner Mary T. Fallon came in there Tuesday, and landed a small catch of fish, which was sent to Boston by rail. The letter also brought the news that there was nothing found in the weirs Tuesday. This means for the fishermen that there will be no fresh bait at that port, and for the dealers that no small fish can be expected from there for several days.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Mary A. Gleason was at Shelburne, N. S., Monday and cleared for the fishing ground.

The Lunenburg sch. J. B. Young cleared from her home port Monday for Bay of Islands for a cargo of frozen herring.

Sch. Ramona sailed from Canso, N. S., Monday.

Foreign Smelts at Boston.

Cold weather is on in the provinces and car loads of natural frozen smelts are beginning to arrive at Boston. Besides what is now on the market a car load from New Brunswick is expected Monday or Tuesday.

On the Railways.

Sch. W. H. Moody is on the Rocky Neck railways.

For Frozen Herring.

Sch. Effie M. Prior is being fitted for a Newfoundland frozen herring trip under command of Capt. Jerry Cook.